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8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
9 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

10 SONIA KNOBLACH,

11 Plaintiff,

12 vs.

13
14 ACOSTA, INC., a Delaware
15 corporation doing business in California
16 as ACOSTA SALES AND
17 MARKETING; and DOES 1-50,
inclusive,

Defendants.

CASE NO. 2:18-cv-3564-JAK (FFMx)

[Discovery Document: Referred to
Magistrate Judge Frederick F. Mumm]

**[PROPOSED] STIPULATED
PROTECTIVE ORDER**

1 **1. A. PURPOSES AND LIMITATIONS**

2 Discovery in this action is likely to involve production of confidential,
3 proprietary, or private information for which special protection from public disclosure
4 and from use for any purpose other than prosecuting this litigation may be warranted.
5 Accordingly, the parties hereby stipulate to and petition the Court to enter the
6 following Stipulated Protective Order. The parties acknowledge that this Order does
7 not confer blanket protections on all disclosures or responses to discovery and that the
8 protection it affords from public disclosure and use extends only to the limited
9 information or items that are entitled to confidential treatment under the applicable
10 legal principles. The parties further acknowledge, as set forth in Section 12.3, below,
11 that this Stipulated Protective Order does not entitle them to file confidential
12 information under seal; Civil Local Rule 79-5 sets forth the procedures that must be
13 followed and the standards that will be applied when a party seeks permission from
14 the court to file material under seal.

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16 **B. GOOD CAUSE STATEMENT**

17 This action is likely to involve personnel records, trade secrets, customer
18 information, valuable research, development, commercial, financial, technical and/or
19 proprietary information for which special protection from public disclosure and from
20 use for any purpose other than prosecution of this action is warranted. Such
21 confidential and proprietary materials and information consist of, among other things,
22 confidential business or financial information, information regarding confidential
23 business practices, or other confidential research, development, or commercial
24 information (including information implicating privacy rights of third parties),
25 information otherwise generally unavailable to the public, or which may be privileged
26 or otherwise protected from disclosure under state or federal statutes, court rules, case
27 decisions, or common law. Accordingly, to expedite the flow of information, to

1 facilitate the prompt resolution of disputes over confidentiality of discovery materials,
2 to adequately protect information the parties are entitled to keep confidential, to ensure
3 that the parties are permitted reasonable necessary uses of such material in preparation
4 for and in the conduct of trial, to address their handling at the end of the litigation, and
5 serve the ends of justice, a protective order for such information is justified in this
6 matter. It is the intent of the parties that information will not be designated as
7 confidential for tactical reasons and that nothing be so designated without a good faith
8 belief that it has been maintained in a confidential, non-public manner, and there is
9 good cause why it should not be part of the public record of this case.

11 **2. DEFINITIONS**

12 2.1 Action: this pending federal lawsuit.

13 2.2 Challenging Party: a Party or Non-Party that challenges the designation
14 of information or items under this Order.

15 2.3 “CONFIDENTIAL” Information or Items: information (regardless of
16 how it is generated, stored or maintained) or tangible things that qualify for protection
17 under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(c), and as specified above in the Good Cause
18 Statement.

19 2.4 Counsel: Outside Counsel of Record and House Counsel (as well as their
20 support staff).

21 2.5 Designating Party: a Party or Non-Party that designates information or
22 items that it produces in disclosures or in responses to discovery as
23 “CONFIDENTIAL.”

24 2.6 Disclosure or Discovery Material: all items or information, regardless of
25 the medium or manner in which it is generated, stored, or maintained (including,

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1 among other things, testimony, transcripts, and tangible things), that are produced or
2 generated in disclosures or responses to discovery in this matter.

3 2.7 Expert: a person with specialized knowledge or experience in a matter
4 pertinent to the litigation who has been retained by a Party or its counsel to serve as
5 an expert witness or as a consultant in this Action.

6 2.8 House Counsel: attorneys who are employees of a party to this Action.
7 House Counsel does not include Outside Counsel of Record or any other outside
8 counsel.

9 2.9 Non-Party: any natural person, partnership, corporation, association, or
10 other legal entity not named as a Party to this action.

11 2.10 Outside Counsel of Record: attorneys who are not employees of a party
12 to this Action but are retained to represent or advise a party to this Action and have
13 appeared in this Action on behalf of that party or are affiliated with a law firm which
14 has appeared on behalf of that party, and includes support staff.

15 2.11 Party: any party to this Action, including all of its officers, directors,
16 employees, consultants, retained experts, and Outside Counsel of Record (and their
17 support staffs).

18 2.12 Producing Party: a Party or Non-Party that produces Disclosure or
19 Discovery Material in this Action.

20 2.13 Professional Vendors: persons or entities that provide litigation support
21 services (e.g., photocopying, videotaping, translating, preparing exhibits or
22 demonstrations, and organizing, storing, or retrieving data in any form or medium)
23 and their employees and subcontractors.

24 2.14 Protected Material: any Disclosure or Discovery Material that is
25 designated as "CONFIDENTIAL."

26 2.15 Receiving Party: a Party that receives Disclosure or Discovery Material
27 from a Producing Party.

1 **3. SCOPE**

2 The protections conferred by this Stipulation and Order cover not only
3 Protected Material (as defined above), but also (1) any information copied or extracted
4 from Protected Material; (2) all copies, excerpts, summaries, or compilations of
5 Protected Material; and (3) any testimony, conversations, or presentations by Parties
6 or their Counsel that might reveal Protected Material.

7 Any use of Protected Material at trial shall be governed by the orders of the trial
8 judge. This Order does not govern the use of Protected Material at trial.
9

10 **4. DURATION**

11 Even after final disposition of this litigation, the confidentiality obligations
12 imposed by this Order shall remain in effect until a Designating Party agrees otherwise
13 in writing or a court order otherwise directs. Final disposition shall be deemed to be
14 the later of (1) dismissal of all claims and defenses in this Action, with or without
15 prejudice; and (2) final judgment herein after the completion and exhaustion of all
16 appeals, rehearings, remands, trials, or reviews of this Action, including the time limits
17 for filing any motions or applications for extension of time pursuant to applicable law.
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19 **5. DESIGNATING PROTECTED MATERIAL**

20 **5.1 Exercise of Restraint and Care in Designating Material for Protection.**

21 Each Party or Non-Party that designates information or items for protection under this
22 Order must take care to limit any such designation to specific material that qualifies
23 under the appropriate standards. The Designating Party must designate for protection
24 only those parts of material, documents, items, or oral or written communications that
25 qualify so that other portions of the material, documents, items,

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1 or communications for which protection is not warranted are not swept unjustifiably
2 within the ambit of this Order.

3 Mass, indiscriminate, or routinized designations are prohibited. Designations
4 that are shown to be clearly unjustified or that have been made for an improper
5 purpose (e.g., to unnecessarily encumber the case development process or to impose
6 unnecessary expenses and burdens on other parties) may expose the Designating Party
7 to sanctions.

8 If it comes to a Designating Party's attention that information or items that it
9 designated for protection do not qualify for protection, that Designating Party must
10 promptly notify all other Parties that it is withdrawing the inapplicable designation.

11 5.2 Manner and Timing of Designations. Except as otherwise provided in
12 this Order (see, e.g., second paragraph of section 5.2(a) below), or as otherwise
13 stipulated or ordered, Disclosure or Discovery Material that qualifies for protection
14 under this Order must be clearly so designated before the material is disclosed or
15 produced.

16 Designation in conformity with this Order requires:

17 (a) for information in documentary form (e.g., paper or electronic
18 documents, but excluding transcripts of depositions or other pretrial or trial
19 proceedings), that the Producing Party affix at a minimum, the legend
20 "CONFIDENTIAL" (hereinafter "CONFIDENTIAL legend"), to each page that
21 contains protected material. If only a portion or portions of the material on a page
22 qualifies for protection, the Producing Party also must clearly identify the protected
23 portion(s) (e.g., by making appropriate markings in the margins).

24 A Party or Non-Party that makes original documents available for inspection
25 need not designate them for protection until after the inspecting Party has indicated
26 which documents it would like copied and produced. During the inspection and before
27 the designation, all of the material made available for inspection shall be deemed
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1 “CONFIDENTIAL.” After the inspecting Party has identified the documents it wants
2 copied and produced, the Producing Party must determine which documents, or
3 portions thereof, qualify for protection under this Order. Then, before producing the
4 specified documents, the Producing Party must affix the “CONFIDENTIAL legend”
5 to each page that contains Protected Material. If only a portion or portions of the
6 material on a page qualifies for protection, the Producing Party also must clearly
7 identify the protected portion(s) (e.g., by making appropriate markings in the
8 margins).

9 (b) for testimony given in depositions that the Designating Party identify the
10 Disclosure or Discovery Material on the record, before the close of the deposition all
11 protected testimony.

12 (c) for information produced in some form other than documentary and for
13 any other tangible items, that the Producing Party affix in a prominent place on the
14 exterior of the container or containers in which the information is stored the legend
15 “CONFIDENTIAL.” If only a portion or portions of the information warrants
16 protection, the Producing Party, to the extent practicable, shall identify the protected
17 portion(s).

18 5.3 Inadvertent Failures to Designate. If timely corrected, an inadvertent
19 failure to designate qualified information or items does not, standing alone, waive the
20 Designating Party’s right to secure protection under this Order for such material. Upon
21 timely correction of a designation, the Receiving Party must make reasonable efforts
22 to assure that the material is treated in accordance with the provisions of this Order.

24 **6. CHALLENGING CONFIDENTIALITY DESIGNATIONS**

25 6.1 Timing of Challenges. Any Party or Non-Party may challenge a
26 designation of confidentiality at any time that is consistent with the Court’s
27 Scheduling Order.

6.2 Meet and Confer. The Challenging Party shall initiate the dispute resolution process under Local Rule 37.1 et seq.

6.3 Burden. The burden of persuasion in any such challenge proceeding shall be on the Designating Party. Frivolous challenges, and those made for an improper purpose (e.g., to harass or impose unnecessary expenses and burdens on other parties) may expose the Challenging Party to sanctions. Unless the Designating Party has waived or withdrawn the confidentiality designation, all parties shall continue to afford the material in question the level of protection to which it is entitled under the Producing Party's designation until the Court rules on the challenge.

7. ACCESS TO AND USE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL

7.1 Basic Principles. A Receiving Party may use Protected Material that is disclosed or produced by another Party or by a Non-Party in connection with this Action only for prosecuting, defending, or attempting to settle this Action. Such Protected Material may be disclosed only to the categories of persons and under the conditions described in this Order. When the Action has been terminated, a Receiving Party must comply with the provisions of section 13 below (FINAL DISPOSITION).

Protected Material must be stored and maintained by a Receiving Party at a location and in a secure manner that ensures that access is limited to the persons authorized under this Order.

7.2 Disclosure of "CONFIDENTIAL" Information or Items. Unless otherwise ordered by the court or permitted in writing by the Designating Party, a Receiving Party may disclose any information or item designated "CONFIDENTIAL" only to:

(a) the Receiving Party's Outside Counsel of Record in this Action, as well as employees of said Outside Counsel of Record to whom it is reasonably necessary to disclose the information for this Action;

1 (b) the officers, directors, and employees (including House Counsel) of the
2 Receiving Party to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action;

3 (c) Experts (as defined in this Order) of the Receiving Party to whom
4 disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action and who have signed the
5 “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

6 (d) the court and its personnel;

7 (e) court reporters and their staff;

8 (f) professional jury or trial consultants, mock jurors, and Professional
9 Vendors to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action and who have
10 signed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

11 (g) the author or recipient of a document containing the information or a
12 custodian or other person who otherwise possessed or knew the information;

13 (h) during their depositions, witnesses ,and attorneys for witnesses, in the
14 Action to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary provided: (1) the deposing party
15 requests that the witness sign the form attached as Exhibit 1 hereto; and (2) they will
16 not be permitted to keep any confidential information unless they sign the
17 “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A), unless otherwise agreed
18 by the Designating Party or ordered by the court. Pages of transcribed deposition
19 testimony or exhibits to depositions that reveal Protected Material may be
20 separately bound by the court reporter and may not be disclosed to anyone except as
21 permitted under this Stipulated Protective Order; and

22 (i) any mediator or settlement officer, and their supporting personnel,
23 mutually agreed upon by any of the parties engaged in settlement discussions.

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1 **8. PROTECTED MATERIAL SUBPOENAED OR ORDERED**
2 **PRODUCED IN OTHER LITIGATION**

3 If a Party is served with a subpoena or a court order issued in other litigation
4 that compels disclosure of any information or items designated in this Action as
5 “CONFIDENTIAL,” that Party must:

6 (a) promptly notify in writing the Designating Party. Such notification shall
7 include a copy of the subpoena or court order;

8 (b) promptly notify in writing the party who caused the subpoena or order to
9 issue in the other litigation that some or all of the material covered by the subpoena or
10 order is subject to this Protective Order. Such notification shall include a copy of this
11 Stipulated Protective Order; and

12 (c) cooperate with respect to all reasonable procedures sought to be pursued
13 by the Designating Party whose Protected Material may be affected.

14 If the Designating Party timely seeks a protective order, the Party served with
15 the subpoena or court order shall not produce any information designated in this action
16 as “CONFIDENTIAL” before a determination by the court from which the subpoena
17 or order issued, unless the Party has obtained the Designating Party’s permission. The
18 Designating Party shall bear the burden and expense of seeking protection in that court
19 of its confidential material and nothing in these provisions should be construed as
20 authorizing or encouraging a Receiving Party in this Action to disobey a lawful
21 directive from another court.
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23 **9. A NON-PARTY’S PROTECTED MATERIAL SOUGHT TO BE**
24 **PRODUCED IN THIS LITIGATION**

25 (a) The terms of this Order are applicable to information produced by a Non-
26 Party in this Action and designated as “CONFIDENTIAL.” Such information
27 produced by Non-Parties in connection with this litigation is protected by the remedies
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1 and relief provided by this Order. Nothing in these provisions should be construed as
2 prohibiting a Non-Party from seeking additional protections.

3 (b) In the event that a Party is required, by a valid discovery request, to
4 produce a Non-Party's confidential information in its possession, and the Party is
5 subject to an agreement with the Non-Party not to produce the Non-Party's
6 confidential information, then the Party shall:

7 (1) promptly notify in writing the Requesting Party and the Non-Party
8 that some or all of the information requested is subject to a confidentiality agreement
9 with a Non-Party;

10 (2) promptly provide the Non-Party with a copy of the Stipulated
11 Protective Order in this Action, the relevant discovery request(s), and a reasonably
12 specific description of the information requested; and

13 (3) make the information requested available for inspection by the
14 Non-Party, if requested.

15 (c) If the Non-Party fails to seek a protective order from this court within
16 14 days of receiving the notice and accompanying information, the Receiving Party
17 may produce the Non-Party's confidential information responsive to the discovery
18 request. If the Non-Party timely seeks a protective order, the Receiving Party shall not
19 produce any information in its possession or control that is subject to the
20 confidentiality agreement with the Non-Party before a determination by the court.
21 Absent a court order to the contrary, the Non-Party shall bear the burden and expense
22 of seeking protection in this court of its Protected Material.

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24 **10. UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL**

25 If a Receiving Party learns that, by inadvertence or otherwise, it has disclosed
26 Protected Material to any person or in any circumstance not authorized under this
27 Stipulated Protective Order, the Receiving Party must immediately (a) notify in
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1 writing the Designating Party of the unauthorized disclosures, (b) use its best efforts
2 to retrieve all unauthorized copies of the Protected Material, (c) inform the person or
3 persons to whom unauthorized disclosures were made of all the terms of this Order,
4 and (d) request such person or persons to execute the “Acknowledgment and
5 Agreement to Be Bound” that is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

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7 **11. INADVERTENT PRODUCTION OF PRIVILEGED OR OTHERWISE**
8 **PROTECTED MATERIAL**

9 When a Producing Party gives notice to Receiving Parties that certain
10 inadvertently produced material is subject to a claim of privilege or other protection,
11 the obligations of the Receiving Parties are those set forth in Federal Rule of Civil
12 Procedure 26(b)(5)(B). This provision is not intended to modify whatever procedure
13 may be established in an e-discovery order that provides for production without prior
14 privilege review. Pursuant to Federal Rule of Evidence 502(d) and (e), the parties have
15 reached the following agreement on the effect of disclosure of a communication or
16 information covered by the attorney-client privilege or work product protection:

17 Pursuant to Federal Rule of Evidence 502, the inadvertent production or
18 disclosure of any document or thing otherwise protected by the attorney-client
19 privilege or attorney work product immunity shall not operate as a waiver of any such
20 privilege or immunity if, after learning of the inadvertent production or disclosure, the
21 party who made the inadvertent production or disclosure sends to any Receiving Party
22 a written request for the return or destruction of such documents or things. Upon
23 receiving such a request, the Receiving Party shall immediately take all necessary
24 steps to return or destroy such documents or things, including all copies and electronic
25 copies, and make a written certification to the Producing Party of such compliance.
26 If, however, the Receiving Party makes a timely challenge as provided in paragraph
27 11(a) below, then return or destruction of such documents or things shall await the

1 court's ruling on the challenge. If the Receiving Party disclosed the inadvertently
2 produced document or thing before being notified by the Producing Party, it must take
3 reasonable steps to retrieve the inadvertently produced document or thing.
4 Additionally:

5 (a) If the Receiving Party wishes to contest that any such inadvertently
6 produced document or thing is protected by the attorney-client privilege or by attorney
7 work-product immunity, the Receiving Party shall so notify the Producing Party in
8 writing when the document or thing is returned to the Producing Party. Within 10
9 court days after receiving such notification, the Producing Party shall provide to the
10 Requesting Party a list identifying all such returned documents and things and stating
11 the basis for the claim of privilege or immunity. Within five (5) court days after
12 receiving such a list, and after the parties have attempted to resolve the dispute through
13 a meaningful meet-and-confer, the Receiving Party may file a motion to compel
14 production of such documents and things, the protection of which is still disputed. If
15 such a motion is filed, the Producing Party shall have the burden of proving that the
16 documents and things in dispute are protected by the attorney-client privilege or by
17 attorney work-product immunity.

18 (b) With respect to documents and things subsequently generated by a
19 Receiving Party, which documents and things contain information derived from such
20 inadvertently produced documents and things, if the Receiving Party does not notify
21 the Producing Party that the Requesting Party disputes the claims of attorney-client
22 privilege or attorney work-product immunity, the Receiving Party shall immediately
23 destroy or redact the derivative documents and things in a manner such that the
24 derivative information cannot in any way be retrieved or reproduced.

25 (c) In no event, however, shall the return or destruction of demanded
26 documents be delayed or refused because of a Receiving Party's objection to the
27 demand or by the filing of a motion to compel. Furthermore, until and unless such
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1 motion to compel is granted, the Receiving Party shall neither quote nor substantively
2 reveal any privileged information contained within the documents or things at issue,
3 either prior to or following their return, except to the extent such information is
4 reflected in an appropriate privilege log.

5 6 **12. MISCELLANEOUS**

7 12.1 Right to Further Relief. Nothing in this Order abridges the right of any
8 person to seek its modification by the Court in the future.

9 12.2 Right to Assert Other Objections. By stipulating to the entry of this
10 Protective Order no Party waives any right it otherwise would have to object to
11 disclosing or producing any information or item on any ground not addressed in this
12 Stipulated Protective Order. Similarly, no Party waives any right to object on any
13 ground to use in evidence of any of the material covered by this Protective Order.

14 12.3 Filing Protected Material. A Party that seeks to file under seal any
15 Protected Material must comply with Civil Local Rule 79-5. Protected Material may
16 only be filed under seal pursuant to a court order authorizing the sealing of the specific
17 Protected Material at issue. If a Party's request to file Protected Material under seal is
18 denied by the court, then the Receiving Party may file the information in the public
19 record unless otherwise instructed by the court.

20 21 **13. FINAL DISPOSITION**

22 After the final disposition of this Action, as defined in paragraph 4, within 60
23 days of a written request by the Designating Party, each Receiving Party must return
24 all Protected Material to the Producing Party or destroy such material. As used in this
25 subdivision, "all Protected Material" includes all copies, abstracts, compilations,
26 summaries, and any other format reproducing or capturing any of the Protected
27 Material. Whether the Protected Material is returned or destroyed, the Receiving Party

1 must submit a written certification to the Producing Party (and, if not the same person
2 or entity, to the Designating Party) by the 60 day deadline that (1) identifies (by
3 category, where appropriate) all the Protected Material that was returned or destroyed
4 and (2) affirms that the Receiving Party has not retained any copies, abstracts,
5 compilations, summaries or any other format reproducing or capturing any of the
6 Protected Material. Notwithstanding this provision, Counsel are entitled to retain an
7 archival copy of all pleadings, motion papers, trial, deposition, and hearing transcripts,
8 legal memoranda, correspondence, deposition and trial exhibits, expert reports,
9 attorney work product, and consultant and expert work product, even if such materials
10 contain Protected Material. Any such archival copies that contain or constitute
11 Protected Material remain subject to this Protective Order as set forth in Section 4
12 (DURATION).

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14 14. Any violation of this Order may be punished by any and all appropriate
15 measures including, without limitation, contempt proceedings and/or monetary
16 sanctions.

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18 **FOR GOOD CAUSE SHOWN, IT IS SO ORDERED.**

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20 DATED: November 15, 2018

/S/ FREDERICK F. MUMM

Frederick F. Mumm
United States Magistrate Judge

1 EXHIBIT A

2 ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND AGREEMENT TO BE BOUND

3 I, _____ [print or type full name], of
4 _____ [print or type full address], declare under penalty of perjury that
5 I have read in its entirety and understand the Stipulated Protective Order that was
6 issued by the United States District Court for the Central District of California on
7 [date] in the case of *Sonia Knoblach v. Acosta, Inc. dba Acosta Sales and Marketing*,
8 U.S. District Court, Central District of California, Case No. 2:18-cv-3564-JAK
9 (FFMx). I agree to comply with and to be bound by all the terms of this Stipulated
10 Protective Order and I understand and acknowledge that failure to so comply could
11 expose me to sanctions and punishment in the nature of contempt. I solemnly promise
12 that I will not disclose in any manner any information or item that is subject to this
13 Stipulated Protective Order to any person or entity except in strict compliance with
14 the provisions of this Order.

15 I further agree to submit to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court
16 for the Central District of California for the purpose of enforcing the terms of this
17 Stipulated Protective Order, even if such enforcement proceedings occur after
18 termination of this action. I hereby appoint _____ [print or
19 type full name] of _____ [print or type full
20 address and telephone number] as my California agent for service of process in
21 connection with this action or any proceedings related to enforcement of this
22 Stipulated Protective Order.

23
24 Date: _____

25 City and State where sworn and signed: _____

26 Printed name: _____

27 Signature: _____